

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-20 are presently active in this case. Claims 3, 8-12 and 15 amended and Claims 1, 2, 13 and 14 canceled by the present Amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 16-21 were withdrawn from further consideration as directed to a non-elected invention. The disclosure was objected to because of informality at page 10, line 32. The title was objected to as not being sufficiently descriptive. Claim 15 was objected to as including informalities requiring correction. Claim 11 was rejected under 35 USC §112, first paragraph, as being based on non-enabling disclosure. Claim 12 was rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1, 2, 9, 10, 12, 13 and 14 were rejected on the merits. However, Claims 3-8 and 15 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but otherwise indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication that Claims 3-8 and 15 include allowable subject matter. In response to this indication, Claims 3, 8 and 15 have been amended to be in independent form, and Claims 1, 2, 13 and 14 have been canceled. Accordingly, the outstanding grounds for rejection on the merits are believed to be moot and each of the pending claims are believed to define allowable subject matter subject to correction of the remaining informalities and grounds for rejection stated in the outstanding Office Action.

In response to the objection to the disclosure, the informality noted at page 10, line 32, has been corrected herewith.

In response to the objection to the title, a new title indicative of the claimed invention is provided herewith.

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Reply to Office Action of October 8, 2003

In response to the rejection of Claim 11 under 35 USC §112, first paragraph, Claim 11 has been amended consistent with the statement in paragraph 7 of the outstanding Official Action that the specification is enabling for an insulating film and a semiconductor layer on a semiconductor substrate.

In response to the rejection of Claim 12, under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, the dependency of Claim 12 has been amended as suggested in the outstanding Office Action.

In view of the above amendments to the specification and claims, each ground for rejection and objection stated in the outstanding Office Action has been addressed and overcome, and no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application. Thus, in light of the indication of allowable subject matter, the pending application is believed to be in condition for a formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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